



# **Armed Forces College of Medicine AFCM**



# Mediastinum

# Mediastinum



## **INTENDED LEARNING OBJECTIVES (ILO)**

**By the end of this section each student should be able to:**

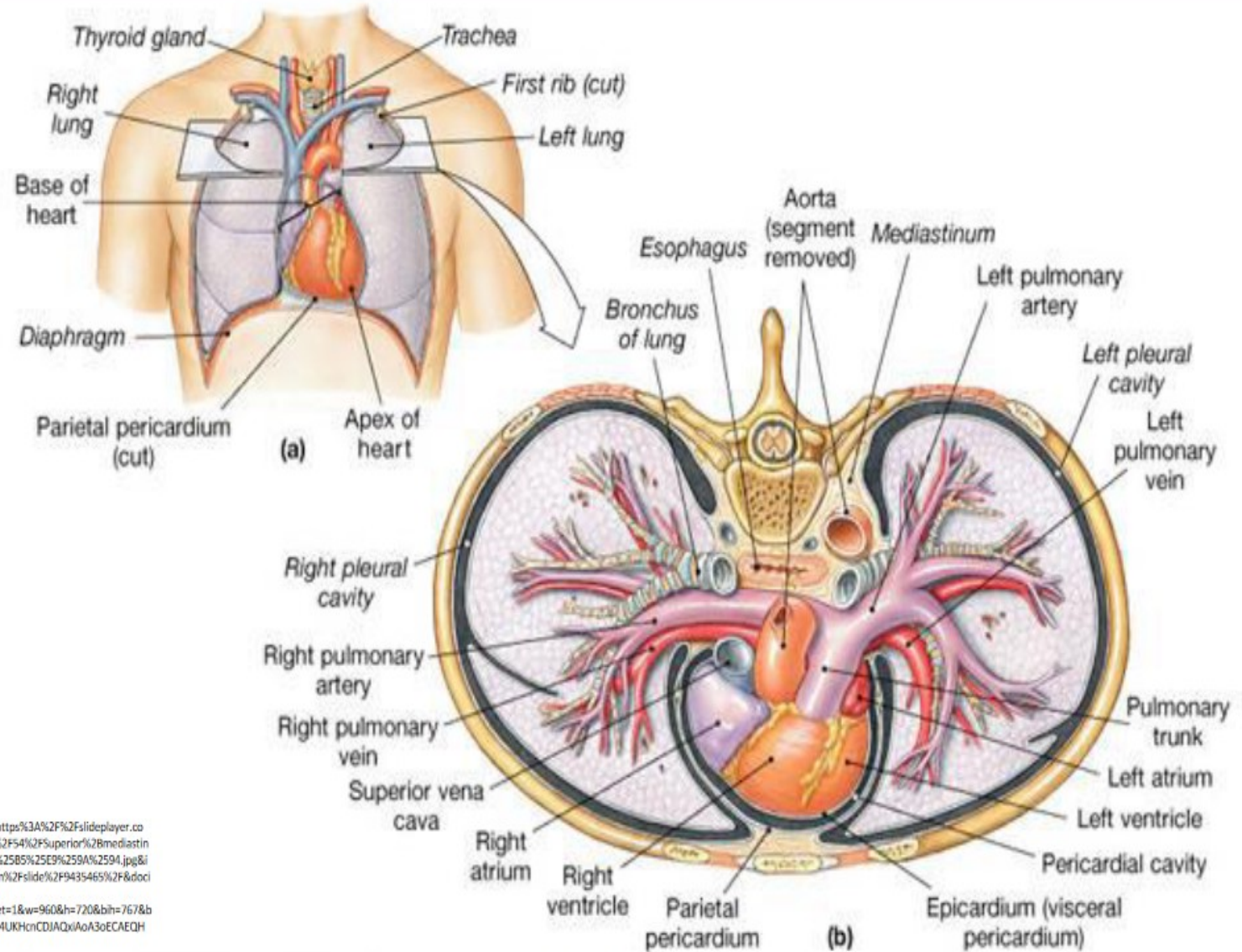
- 1. Identify the position of mediastinum.**
- 2. Trace the boundaries and divisions of the mediastinum.**
- 3. Identify the contents of the superior, anterior, middle and posterior mediastinum.**

# Mediastinum



**Where is the Mediastinum?**

**It is a partition found between right and left pleural sacs.**

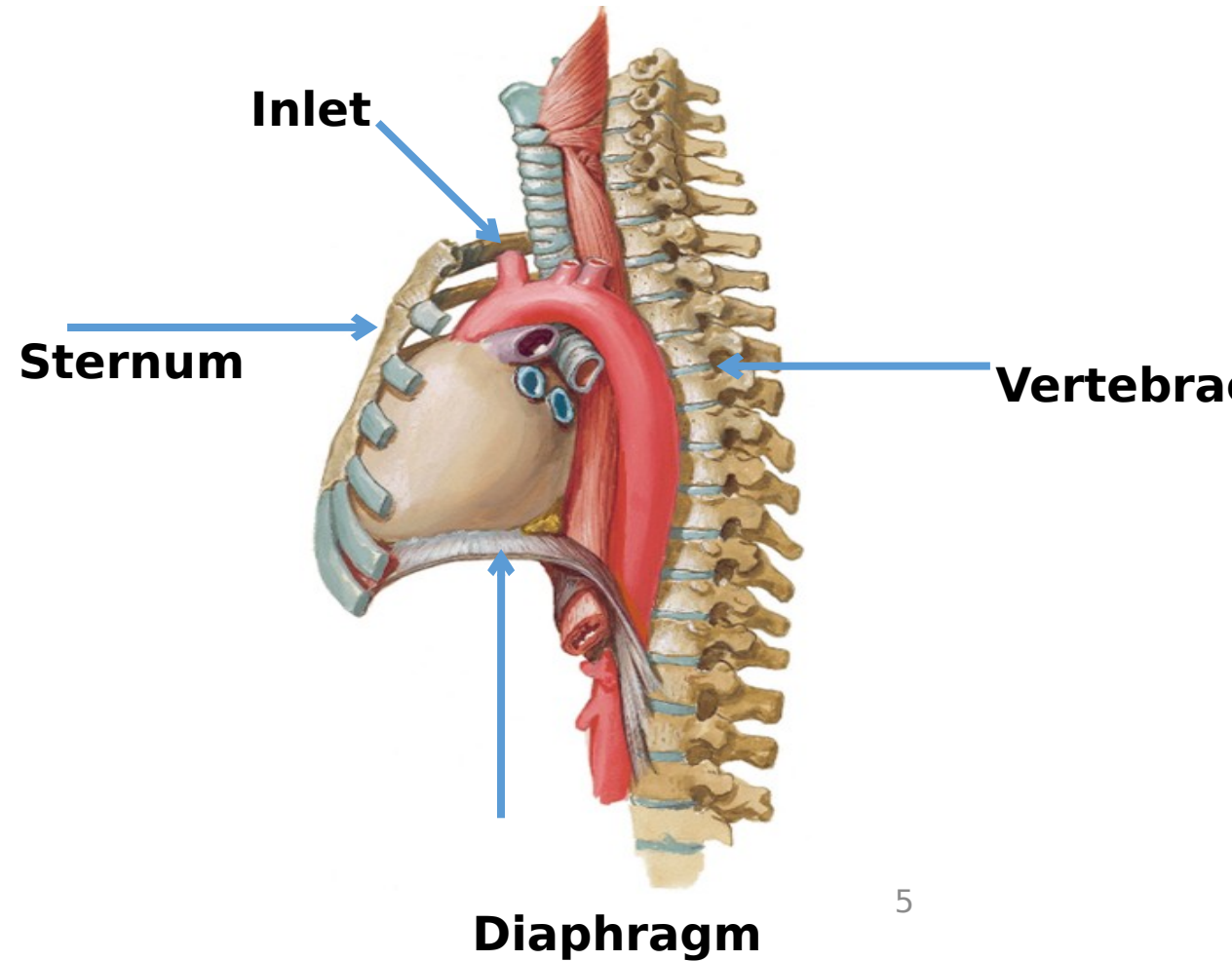


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# Boundaries of mediastinum



- **Anterior**: sternum & costal cartilages
- **Posterior**: bodies of all thoracic vertebrae
- **Superior** : thoracic inlet & root of neck
- **Inferior** : diaphragm
- **Laterally**: Rt & Lt Pleural sacs



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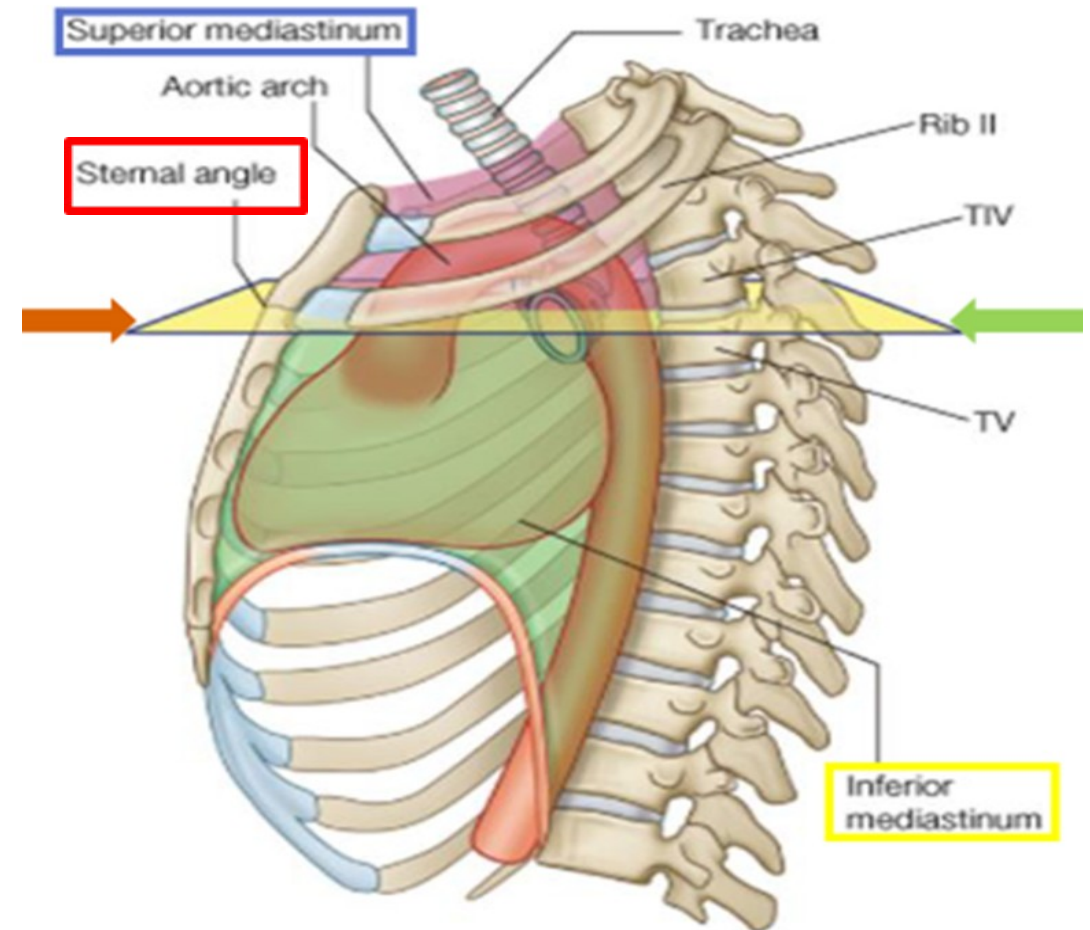
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# Divisions of the mediastinum



- It is divided by an **imaginary plane** extending from the **sternal angle** to the **lower border of the 4<sup>th</sup> thoracic vertebra** into **superior** and **inferior** mediastinum.



# Superior mediastinum



## Contents:

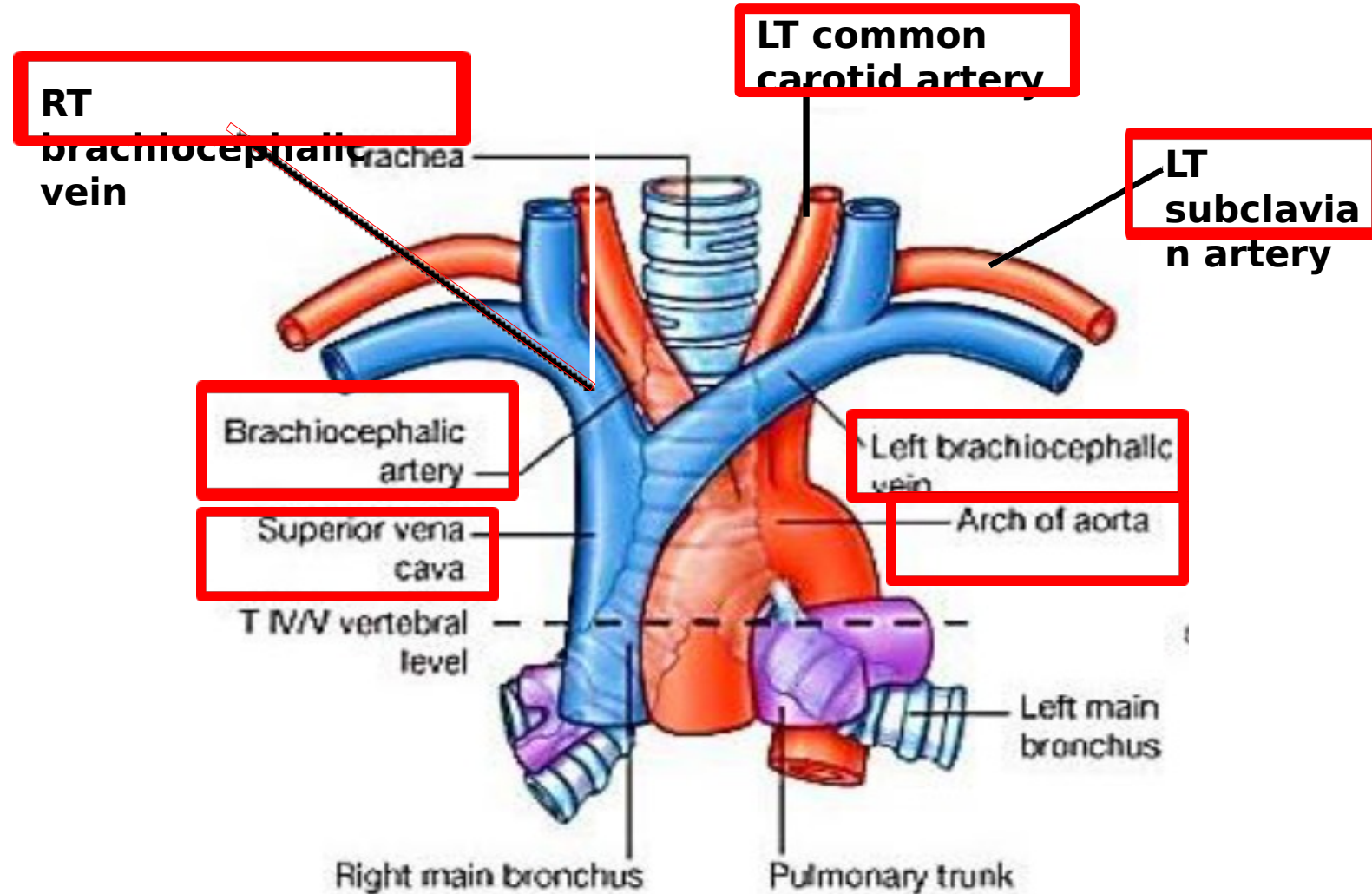
### Veins:

- Right brachiocephalic vein
- Left brachiocephalic
- Upper half of SVC

### Arteries:

#### Arch of aorta & its three branches

- Brachiocephalic
- Left Common Carotid
- Left Subclavian



# Superior mediastinum

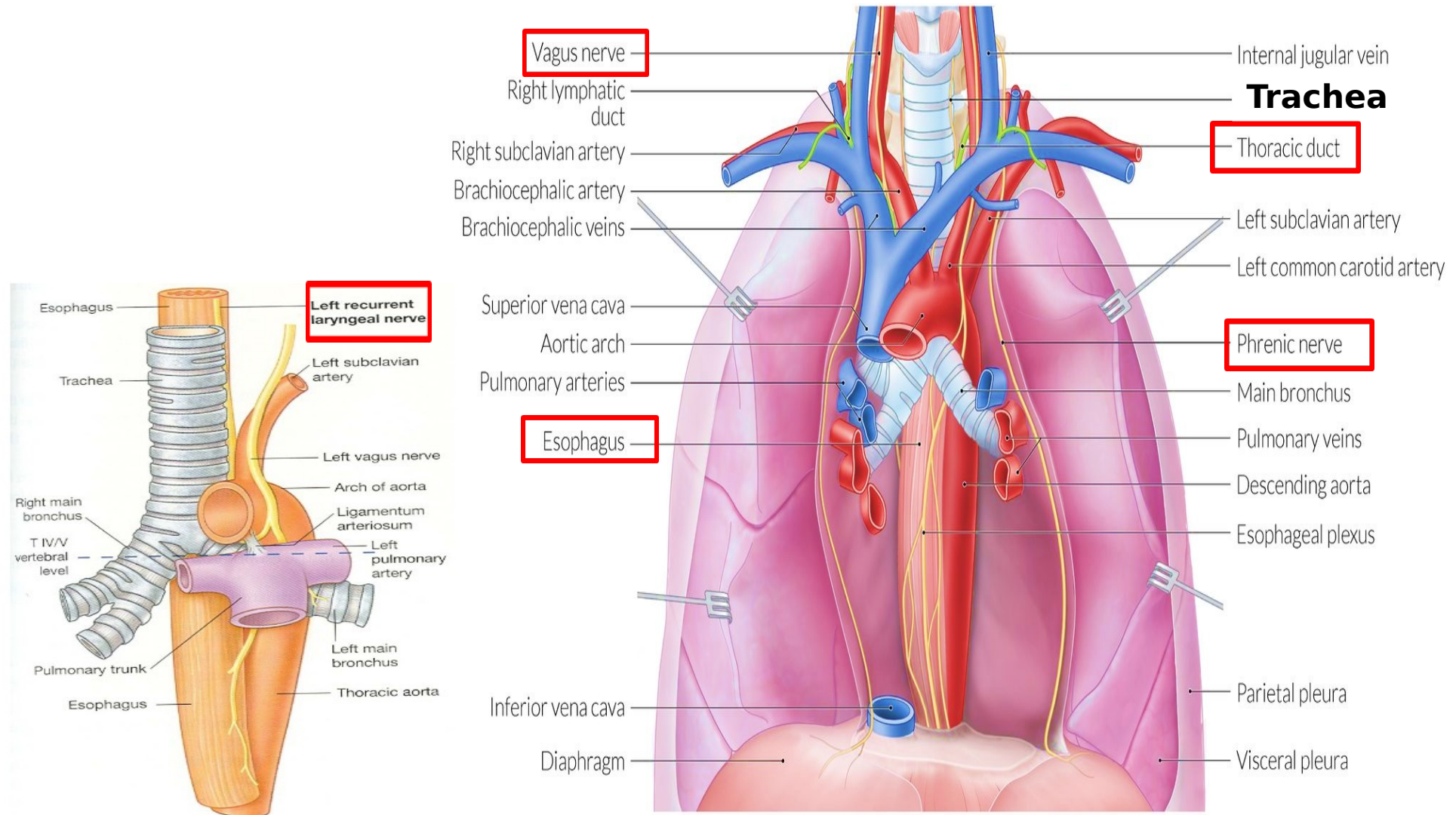


## Nerves

- Rt. and Lt. Phrenic
- Rt. and Lt. Vagus
- Lt. recurrent laryngeal

## Tubes

- Trachea
- Esophagus
- Thoracic d



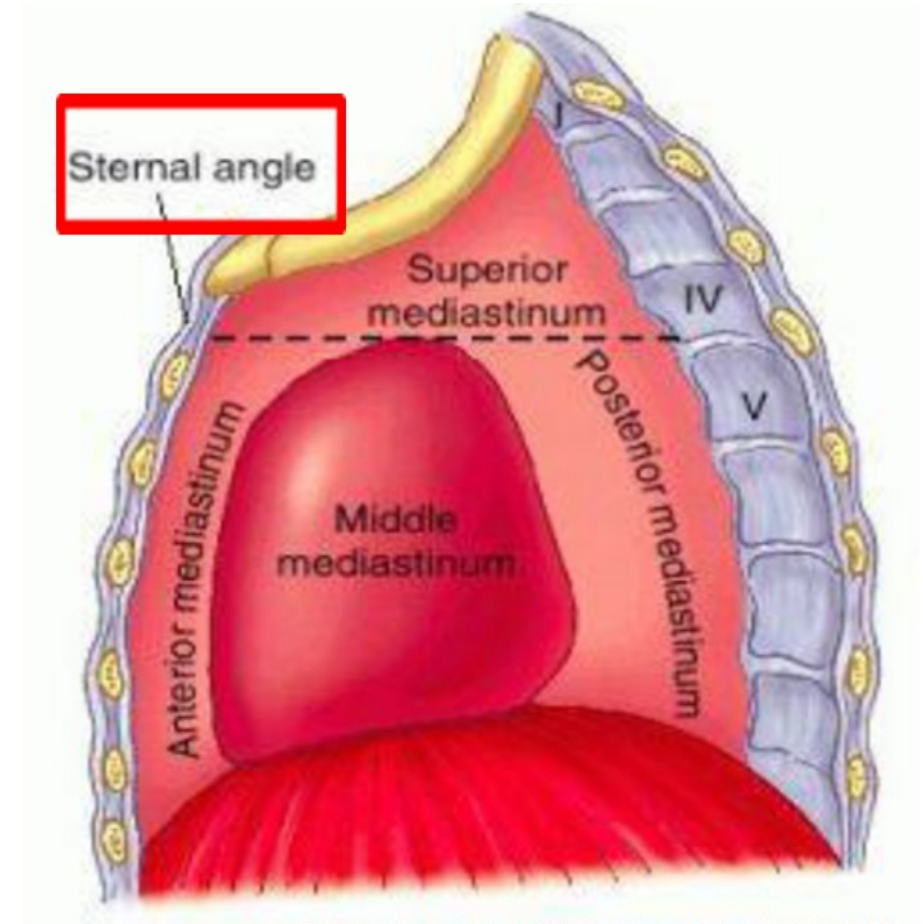


# Inferior mediastinum



The inferior mediastinum is further subdivided by heart & pericardium into:

- **Anterior mediastinum:** anterior to the heart & pericardium.
- **Middle mediastinum:** contains heart & pericardium.



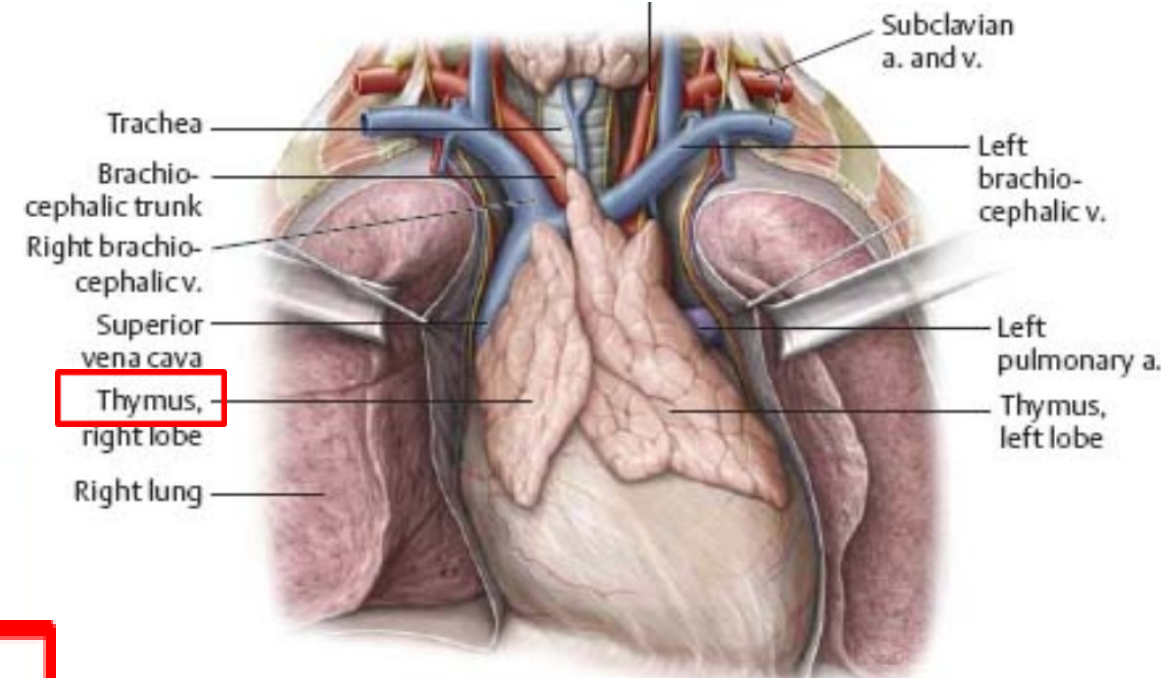
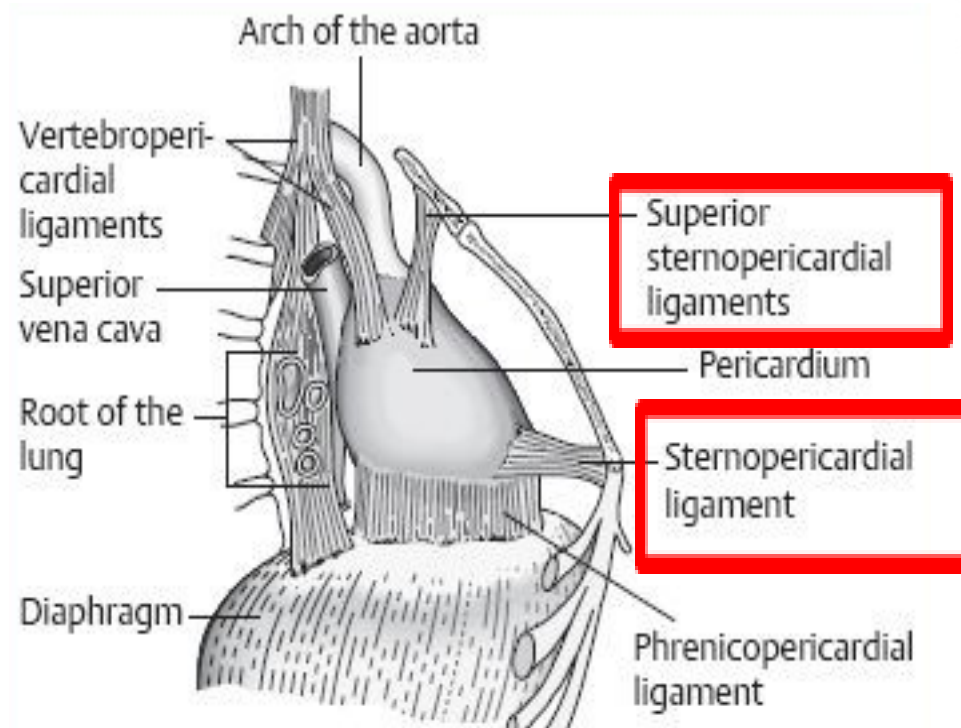
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# Anterior mediastinum



## Contents

- **Sternopericardial ligaments**
- **Remnants of thymus**

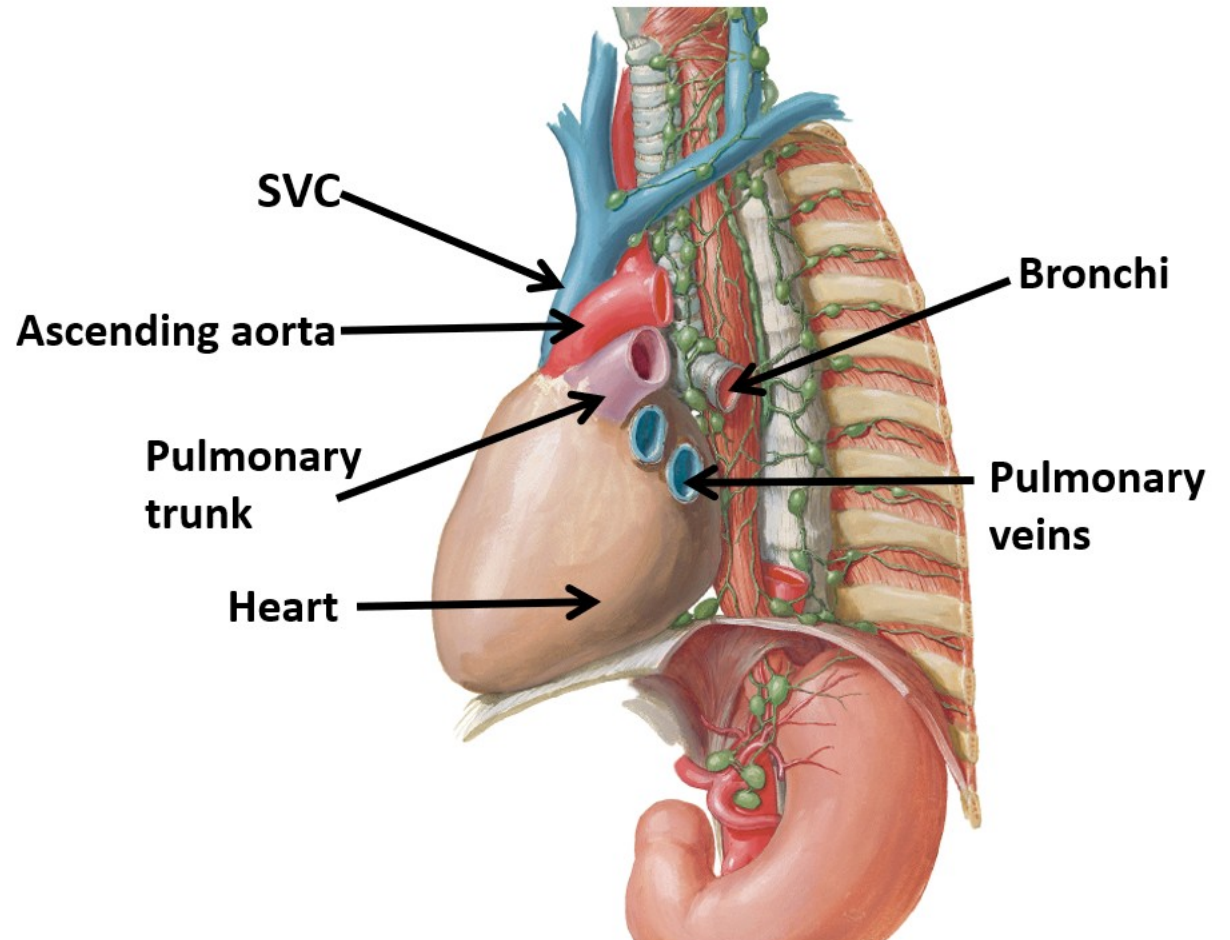


# Middle mediastinum



## Contents

- Heart within its pericardium
- Ascending aorta & pulmonary trunk
- lower 1/2 of SVC, upper 1/2 of IVC, pulmonary veins & termination of azygos vein in SVC



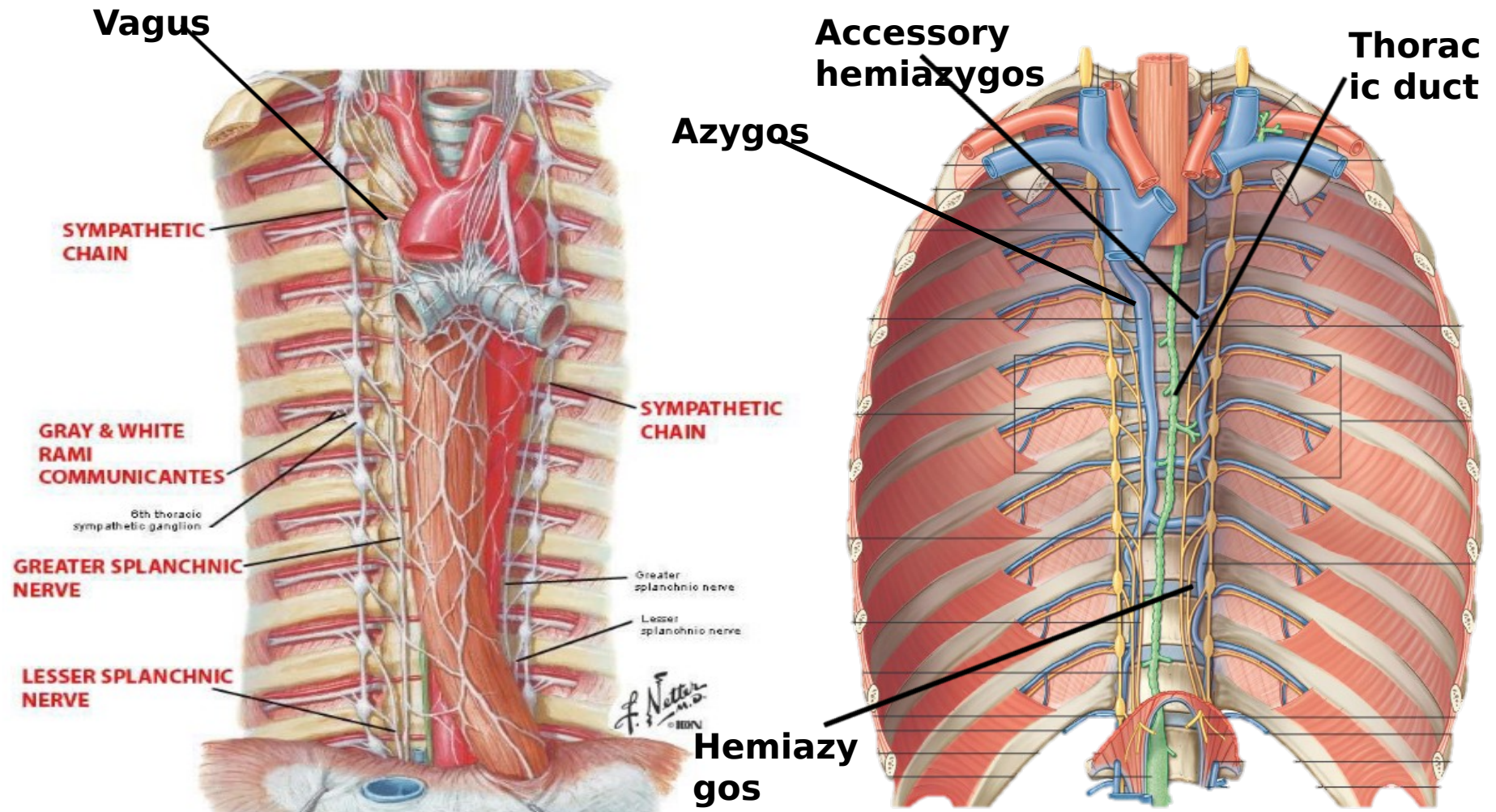


# Posterior mediastinum



## Contents :

- Esophagus
- Descending aorta & posterior intercostal arteries
- Thoracic duct
- Azygous vein, hemiazygos & accessory hemiazygos
- Vagi & splanchnic





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